

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A composite material containing a reinforcing resin and reinforcing fibers, the reinforcing fibers having a coating containing polyphenylene sulfide, ~~characterised in that the~~wherein a proportion of polyphenylene sulfide relative to ~~the~~ uncoated reinforcing fibers is 0.001 to < 0.01 percent by weight.
2. (Currently Amended) Composite material according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the proportion of polyphenylene sulfide relative to the uncoated reinforcing fibers is 0.002 to 0.009 wt.%.
3. (Currently Amended) Composite material according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the coating ~~consists of~~comprises polyphenylene sulfide and a thermoplastic or duroplastic material.
4. (Currently Amended) Composite material according to ~~one or more of Claims 1 to 3~~Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the reinforcing resin is a thermoplastic or a mixture of thermoplastics.
5. (Currently Amended) Composite material according to ~~one or more of Claims 1 to 4~~Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the reinforcing fibers are carbon fibers of pitch, polyacrylonitrile or rayon precursors, or aramid, glass, ceramic, boron, ~~synthetic or~~synthetic, natural fibers, or combinations of these fibers.
6. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~production of~~producing a composite material comprising the steps
 - a) ~~provision of~~providing reinforcing fibers that have been optionally pretreated ~~if required~~,

b) ~~application of~~applying a coating containing polyphenylene sulfide on the reinforcing fibers of step a), such that the coating contains 0.001 to < 0.01 wt.% of polyphenylene sulfide relative to the reinforcing fibers, resulting in ~~the production of~~ coated reinforcing fibers, and

c) processing ~~of the~~ coated reinforcing fibers of step b) into a composite material, using with a reinforcing resin.

7. (Currently Amended) Method according to Claim 6, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the reinforcing fibers of step a) are carbon fibers of pitch, polyacrylonitrile or rayon precursors, or aramid, glass, ceramic, boron, ~~synthetic or~~synthetic, natural fibers, or combinations of these fibers.

8. (Currently Amended) Method according to Claim 6 ~~or 7~~, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the carbon reinforcing fibers of step a) have been pretreated by electrochemical oxidation.

9. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one or more of Claims 6 to 8~~Claim 6, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the reinforcing fibers of step a) are conducted through a bath containing a suspension of polyphenylene sulfide, dried and wound up in step b).

10. (Currently Amended) Method according to Claim 9, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the bath also contains a solution of a thermoplastic.

11. (Currently Amended) Method according to ~~one or more of Claims 6 to 10~~Claim 6, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the coated reinforcing fibers in step c) are processed in ~~the a~~ form of filament yarns, short fibers, woven, braided, knitted or crocheted fabrics, nonwovens, ~~or uni-~~unidirectional scrims or multidirectional scrims into a composite material.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of the composite material according to one or more of Claims 1 to 5, or of composite material produced according to one or more of Claims 6 to 11, for production of components~~ Components for aircraft construction, automobile

construction, machine construction or plant construction, and ~~for production of medical components,~~ comprised of the composite material according to claim 1.

13. (New) Reinforcing fibers having a coating containing polyphenylene sulfide, wherein a proportion of polyphenylene sulfide relative to uncoated reinforcing fibers is 0.001 to < 0.01 wt.%.

14. (New) Reinforcing fibers according to Claim 13, wherein the proportion of polyphenylene sulfide relative to the uncoated reinforcing fibers is 0.002 to 0.009 wt.%.

15. (New) Reinforcing fibers according to Claim 13, wherein the coating comprises polyphenylene sulfide and a thermoplastic or duroplastic.

16. (New) Reinforcing fibers according to Claim 13, wherein the reinforcing fibers are carbon fibers of pitch, polyacrylonitrile or rayon precursors, or aramid, glass, ceramic, boron, synthetic, natural fibers, or combinations of these fibers.